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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 1950

✓	ROGERS
	JOHNSTON
✓	JONES
	ANDERSON
	STANTON
	FULLER
✓	MATTSON
✓	CONDON
✓	SKINNER
✓	EVANS
	CHAPMAN
	FINCH
	JAY
✓	KITTAMS
✓	WOHLBRANDT
	ROBINSON
	WIGGINS
	McMULLIN

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

FICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the December 1950 Monthly Narrative Report for
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

		Page
WEATHER:	Temperatures considerably above and precipitation below normal. Much bare ground north section. Maximum 45°, minimum -7°.	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Rogers on annual leave, Denver. Johnston & Joffe Act. Supt. Johnston to Montana Natural Resources Council meet. Johnston, Joffe, Skinner to Park County Rod & Gun Club meet. Joffe on annual leave first of month. Mattson on annual leave and trip to Teton.	1
	Steno exam. Director recommended return to use of printed permits. Mammoth school vacation and Christmas program. Many home from schools elsewhere. Fesler General Store & Post Office, Moran, burned. Robert Hall appointment as Asst. Regional Director. Wage schedule approved 29th.	2
INSPECTIONS:	Joe Gaab, Montana Fish & Game; Dr. Don Quimby, Zoology Dept., Montana State College; A. A. Codd, Hydraulic Engr., Soil Conservation Service, in.	2
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	Weekly Newsletter.	
PUBLICITY:	No releases, but articles appeared re elk program. Dummy for broadside. 162,000 broadsides on hand.	2
COMPLAINTS:	One complaint letter received.	3
PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:	"As constructed" drawings. Annual leave of Engineers & Architect.	3
MAINTENANCE:	Some plowing; considerable sanding. W. Yell. road kept open due construction there. Old Faithful winterkeepers to W. Yell. & return by car 24th. Cleaning & storing of equipment.	3
NEW CONSTRUCTION:	Projects listed, incl. elk traps & W. Yell. house.	3
CONCESSIONERS:	Most rates submitted; reports expected soon. Haynes & Hamilton contracts expired 31st. Y.P.Co. shops at Gardiner closed Dec. 1-Mar. 1. Huntley Child maintained office at Gardiner.	4

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E OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

		Page
RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND CHAPEL USE:	Sunday School. Christmas program. Services by Rev. Syms.	4
INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:	Park Naturalist Upton gave talks while on trip. Ford movie on Yellowstone shown Rod & Gun Club.	4
MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:	Sinter specimens sent to Austria. Preparation specimens for Franz Lipp exhibit at Chicago.	4
RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:	Equipment used for Old Faithful study returned to Weather Bureau. Grouse observed at Mammoth all month; also bull elk, rabbits, mule deer and many birds.	5
NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:	Many books ordered for Custer BNM. Supply visual aids purchased for them.	5
INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TRAVEL:	597 vehicles with 1839 persons as compared 659 with 1996 last December.	5
VISITORS:	Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Milotte, Walt Disney Productions, left.	6
RANGER SERVICE:	Hunting patrols, live elk reduction, work on riding & saddle equip. & horse trailers, fire control posters & lesson plans, etc.	6
WILDLIFE AND FISH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: ELK MANAGEMENT:	Trapping, 27 to Mont. Fish & Game and 6 released north of park; little success trapping. Work on traps. Hunting season poor. Arrangements for direct control after January 1.	6
FOREST FIRE PROTECTION:	Forestry Report ready type. Fire Atlas inclusions. Hess preparing training aid material.	7
WEATHER OBSERVATIONS:	Arrangements for snow course measurements.	7
TRAILS:	Conferences re trail estimates.	7
BUILDING FIRE PROTECTION:	"Hero" extinguishers sent new house at W. Yell. & replacing defective ones here. Hazard inspections halted due elk program. Mammoth fire truck equipment checked.	7
ACCIDENTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY:	Four motor vehicle accidents.	7
LAW ENFORCEMENT:	Judge Wilcox still away. Skinner & F. Anderson as witnesses at manslaughter trial at Cheyenne.	8
MARRIAGES:	Lucinda M. Bolt and Lyford W. Dore married.	8

		Page
RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND CHARITABLE USE:	Sunday School. Conference program. Services in Per. Spa.	4
INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:	Park Naturalist Upton gave talks, hikes on orig. Fort movie or lectures about Col & Gen Club.	4
MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:	Shifter specimens sent to Austria. Preparation specimens for Trans Ldgp exhibit at Chicago	4
RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION:	Equipment used for Old Institutl study returned to Weather Bureau. Grouse observed at Thomas all month; clay bull elk, rabbits, mule deer and many birds.	5
NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:	Many books ordered for Greater KNP. Supply visual aids prepared for this.	5
INCIDENCE OF VISITORS IN TRAVEL:	247 vehicles with 1639 persons as compared 659 with 1956 last December.	1
VISITORS:	Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Stieglitz, Wall Lacey Productions, Inc.	6
LOWER SERVICE:	Pumping petrols, live oil reduction, work on riding & saddle corp. & horse trailer, fire control, protect & lesson plans, etc.	6
WILDLIFE AND ITS CONSERVATION:	Trapping, 27 to south Rich & Cons and 6 re-leased north of park; little success trapping. Work on traps. Breeding season poor. Arrangements for direct control after January 1.	1
FOREST FIRE PROTECTION:	Forestry Report very very type. Fire rules modifications. Have presently training and material.	7
WEATHER OBSERVATIONS:	Arrangements for new Weather measurement.	7
TRAILS:	Conferences on trail relocation.	7
BUILDING AND PROTECTION:	Water entanglement and use house at Ft. Hall. A replacing defective case here. Hazard inspections helped due all program. Remove fire truck equipment checked.	7
ACCIDENTS AND PERSONAL SAFETY:	Four motor vehicle accidents.	7
LAW ENFORCEMENT:	Judge Wilcox still away. Gilmore & F. Anderson as witnesses at manslaughter trial at Cheyenne.	8
MARRIAGES:	Jonathan M. Holt and Lyford S. Dere married.	8

		Page
PERSONNEL:	Wilbur Thomas eod Storekeeper (Gen.)-Truck Driver. Elizabeth McGinnis, seas. Clerk-Steno, & Virginia Fuller, seas. Clerk-Typist, terminated. Lucinda M. Bolt, seas. Clerk-Steno, furloughed. Arnold Quist, Plumber, annual leave & lwop attending school. Robert H. Robinson promoted from Park Ranger, GS-5 to Supervisory Park Ranger, GS-6.	8
MISCELLANEOUS:	F. E. U. meeting. New Year's party.	8

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

FFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

January 5, 1951

Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Acting Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for December 1950

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of December 1950.

Weather Conditions. Temperatures were considerably above normal with the total precipitation slightly below normal. Temperatures of 40° or higher were recorded on ten days while below zero temperatures were only recorded on one day during the entire month. The maximum temperature of 45° was recorded on the 11th and the minimum of -7° on the 5th. Precipitation totaling 0.83" fell on the 1st, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 29th, 30th and 31st. A comparison of precipitation for previous years shows that in 1949 - 1.03", 1948 - 2.01", 1947 - 0.74", 1946 - 1.11", 1945 - 1.15", and 1944 - 0.34". The warm weather melted much of the snow that fell during the first part of the month on the northern part of the park with a great deal of bare ground in evidence.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers was in Denver and on annual leave throughout the month. Assistant Superintendent Johnston was Acting Superintendent and in his absence Administrative Assistant Joffe was Acting Superintendent.

Acting Superintendent Johnston attended the meeting of the Montana Natural Resources Council of State and Federal Agencies at the Montana State College in Bozeman on December 15, and on December 21 he, Administrative Assistant Joffe and Chief Ranger Skinner attended the Park County Rod and Gun Club Meeting in Livingston, at which meeting new officers for the ensuing year were elected.

Administrative Assistant Joffe was on annual leave from November 28 through December 7.

Resident Landscape Architect Mattson was on annual leave most of the month, making one trip on official business to Grand Teton National Park on December 12 and returning on the 16th. He returned from a trip to Minnesota on December 3.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Memorandum

To: Rick Everson

From: Acting superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly report for December 1970

Following is the report of operations for Yellowstone National Park during the month of December 1970.

Visitor Conditions. [illegible] were [illegible] normal with the total [illegible] only below normal. [illegible] at 40% or higher were [illegible] on [illegible] days, [illegible] were only [illegible] on the [illegible] days. The average temperature of 40° was [illegible] on the [illegible] of the month of [illegible] the 8th. Precipitation totaling 1.87" fell on the [illegible], [illegible], 27th and 28th. [illegible] above that on [illegible] 1969 - 2.12"), and [illegible] - 2.15"). [illegible] total fell mostly in the form of [illegible] on the [illegible] period with a great deal of [illegible] [illegible].

Special Publicity. [illegible] normal [illegible] through the month. [illegible] during [illegible] and holiday [illegible].

Action [illegible] Junior [illegible] Bozeman Junior [illegible] of the [illegible] Bozeman [illegible] Junior College in Bozeman on [illegible] 12, and on [illegible] Intermountain Regional [illegible] and Gallatin Range [illegible] County Fair and Ski Club [illegible] in [illegible] officers for the coming year [illegible].

Administrative Assistant John [illegible] attended [illegible] 16 through December 2.

Resident Landscape Architect [illegible] of the month, making one trip on official business [illegible] Park on December 12 and returning on the 14th. [illegible] to Minneapolis on December 2.

The Local Civil Service Board held an examination for Stenographer on December 8 with one competitor.

On December 19 the Director recommended that Yellowstone go back to using printed prenumbered motor vehicle permits instead of cash registers as it had been proven after a full trial that the cash registers were not particularly adaptable for gate work in this park.

The Mammoth School holiday vacation began on December 21 and continued through January 1. A number of the children of the park families who are attending school away from the park were home for the holidays and added much pleasure and enjoyment in many of the Mammoth households. The special Christmas program for the Mammoth Grade School was held on the evening of December 21 and Santa Claus, in the person of Tom Ela, made his appearance and distributed gifts, candy, fruit, nuts, etc. to all the children present.

The Fesler General Store at Moran, Wyoming, burned to the ground on Christmas morning. This store houses the Moran Post Office, which is the Post Office serving the South Entrance Ranger Station. Fortunately all Christmas mail had been disposed of prior to the fire.

Announcement was made on December 29 through a press release from Washington that the Secretary had appointed Robert G. Hall as the third Assistant Regional Director in Region Two. Mr. Hall is well known to Yellowstone personnel as he served in this park during his early years in the National Park Service, beginning in 1933, and married Marjorie Miles, employee of the Pryor Stores, Inc.

A new wage schedule for ungraded employees was approved by the Director on December 29 and will become effective January 7.

Inspections. Joe Gaab of the Montana Fish and Game Department and Dr. Don C. Quimby of the Department of Zoology, Bozeman College, in December 26 on elk studies in connection with elk reduction program.

A. A. Codd, Hydraulic Engineer, Soil Conservation Service, Bozeman, in December 27 to instruct on reading of snow courses in the park.

In-Service Training. The Weekly Newsletter was issued each Thursday during the month to keep employees, concessioners and others currently informed on park happenings.

Publicity. No press releases were sent out from the park during the month although a number of items regarding the elk reduction were carried by various newspapers throughout this western country and especially following the meeting of a special committee on the northern elk called by George Kern, Secretary of the Absaroka Conservation Committee and held at Mammoth December 2.

Yellowstone Park Library

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The Fowler General Store at Horan, Wyoming, burned to the ground on Christmas morning. This store houses the Horan Post Office, which is the Post Office serving the South Entrance Ranger Station. Fortunately all Christmas mail had been disposed of prior to the fire.

Announcement was made on December 29 through a press release from Washington that the Secretary had appointed Robert C. Hall as the third Assistant Regional Director in Region Two. Mr. Hall is well known to Yellowstone personnel as he served in this park during his early years in the National Park Service, beginning in 1933, and married Marjorie Miller, employee of the Fryer Store, Inc.

A new wage schedule for unskilled employees was approved by the Director on December 29 and will become effective January 7.

Interpretive. Joe Cash of the Montana Fish and Game Department and Dr. Don C. Quimby of the Department of Zoology, Bozeman College, in December 26 on elk studies in connection with elk reduction program.

A. A. Codd, Hydraulic Engineer, Soil Conservation Service, Bozeman, in December 27 to instruct on reading of snow courses in the park.

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The dummy for the 1951 Yellowstone broadside was prepared during the month and forwarded the Region Office on December 15.

A total of 162,000 Yellowstone broadsides for 1950 remained on hand at the end of the month.

Complaints. One letter of complaint was received during the month, on discourtesy of service station attendant.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Much of the Engineers' time during the month was spent in preparing "as constructed" drawings of projects that were under construction during the past season. Park Engineer Wohlbrandt and Assistant Rowe were on annual leave about half the month and Resident Landscape Architect Mattson was also on annual leave the greater part of the month.

Maintenance. Although snow during the month was light, snow plows were used on six different days, and sanding of hills and icy spots was much above normal. During warmer days some patching work was done. Besides keeping the road to Cooke plowed open the road to West Yellowstone was kept open during the first half of the month to allow completion of the new residence under construction there. This was one of the few Decembers on record when it was possible to travel between Mammoth and West Yellowstone by car but this was only possible because of some road plowing in connection with the construction of the West Yellowstone residence. The winterkeepers at Old Faithful were able to make a trip by car from Old Faithful to West Yellowstone and return on December 24.

Some equipment was cleaned during the month and all equipment was stored where space was available.

All maintenance operations during the month were handled by the permanent maintenance organization, consisting of two Foremen and two Operators, General.

New Construction. There was no active work on any of the major road projects during the month. Construction projects active during the month consisted of the following:

Account 331.03, Employee's Residence, West Yellowstone.--Work on the residence was completed and the building has been occupied.

Account 331.07, Elk Trap and Abattoir Construction, Lamar.--Work 100% complete; trap in operation.

Account 331.08, Elk Trap and Abattoir Construction, Crystal Creek.--Trap revamped and completed. Abattoir deleted. Trap in operation.

The dummy for the 1951 Yellowstone brochure was prepared during the month and forwarded the Region office on December 14.

A total of 142,000 Yellowstone brochures for 1950 remained on hand at the end of the month.

Complaints. One letter of complaint was received during the month, on discourtesy of service station attendant.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Each of the engineers' time during the month was spent in preparing "as constructed" drawings of projects that were under construction during the past season. Park Engineer Wolfhamerd and Assistant Howe were on annual leave about half the month and Resident Landscape Architect Mattson was also on annual leave the greater part of the month.

Maintenance. Although snow during the month was light, snow plows were used on six different days, and sanding of hills and top spots was much above normal. During warmer days some patching work was done. Besides keeping the road to Cooke plaza open the road to West Yellowstone was kept open during the first half of the month to allow completion of the new residence under construction there. This was one of the few December on record when it was possible to travel between Mammoth and West Yellowstone by car but this was only possible because of some road plowing in connection with the construction of the West Yellowstone residence. The winterkeepers at Old Faithful were able to make a trip by car from Old Faithful to West Yellowstone and return on December 24.

Some equipment was cleaned during the month and all equipment was stored where space was available.

All maintenance operations during the month were handled by the permanent maintenance organization, consisting of two foremen and two Operators, General.

New Construction. There was no active work on any of the major road projects during the month. Construction projects active during the month consisted of the following:

Account 321.02, Employee's Residence, West Yellowstone.--Work on the residence was completed and the building has been occupied.

Account 321.07, Elk Trap and Abattoir Construction, Lamar.--Work 100% complete; trap in operation.

Account 321.08, Elk Trap and Abattoir Construction, Crystal Creek.--Trap revamped and completed. Abattoir deleted. Trap in operation.

Account 331.09, Elk Trap Construction, Black Tail Deer Creek.--Trap 50% complete. All material is on hand.

Account 231.01, Repair heating plant, Building 34, Under Contract.--Work about 85% complete. Furnace in place. Some piping to complete.

Account 231.02, Repair heating plant, Building 13.--Work under contract; but actual work not started.

Concessioners. By the end of the month practically all concessioners had submitted their proposed schedules of rates for the 1951 season and these were forwarded on to the Region and Washington Offices for the necessary action. Some of the reports of the concessioners covering their operations for 1950 had been received by the end of the month but these were all expected early in January. The contracts of Haynes, Inc. and Hamilton Stores, Inc. expired on December 31, 1950, but no new contracts had been submitted to these concessioners by the end of the year for execution.

The Yellowstone Park Company closed its shops at Gardiner on December 1 to remain closed until March 1 due to the present international situation and uncertainty of operations next year. Huntley Child, Jr., Vice President of the Yellowstone Park Company, maintained an office at Gardiner throughout the month and expects to keep this office open throughout the winter. Mr. Child was absent from the office most of the month on trips to Colorado and California.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. The regular Sunday School services were held each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. throughout the month of December. A special Christmas program was held in the Chapel on Sunday evening, December 24. The Rev. E. A. Syms of Livingston, Montana, provided the sermon and special music was presented by the adult and childrens choirs. Rev. E. A. Syms conducted non-sectarian Protestant services at 7:00 p.m. on the 10th and 24th; and, a holy communion service on Sunday evening, December 31.

Interpretive Services. While on annual leave Park Naturalist Robert F. Upton gave five talks on Yellowstone National Park to a total of 200 people.

The sound movie on Yellowstone Park prepared by the Ford Motor Company was presented to the Park County Rod and Gun Club on December 19.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. A set of sinter specimens, both siliceous and calcareous, were shipped to Dr. Scheminzky in Austria. These were sent through the U. S. Army Occupational Forces, Educational Branch, as a cooperative measure with that agency and the specimens were sent out on December 26.

Account 231.09, Elk Trap Construction, Black Hill Deer Corral.--Trap 50% complete. All material is on hand.

Account 231.01, Repair heating plant, Building 14, Under Contract.--Work about 85% complete. Furnace in place. Some piping to complete.

Account 231.02, Repair heating plant, Building 13.--Work under contract; but actual work not started.

Concessionaires. By the end of the month practically all concessionaires had submitted their proposed schedules of rates for the 1951 season and these were forwarded on to the Region and Washington Offices for the necessary action. Some of the reports of the concessionaires covering their operations for 1950 had been received by the end of the month but these were all expected early in January. The contracts of Hamer, Inc. and Hamilton Stores, Inc. expired on December 31, 1950, but no new contracts had been submitted to these concessionaires by the end of the year for execution.

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Interpretive Service. While on annual leave Park Naturalist Robert F. Upton gave five talks on Yellowstone National Park to a total of 200 people.

The sound movie on Yellowstone Park prepared by the Ford Motor Company was presented to the Park County Rod and Gun Club on December 12.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. A set of winter specimens, both allosaurus and saltcrocus, were shipped to Dr. Schaumburg in Austria. These were sent through the U. S. Army Occupational Forces, Munich, Germany, as a cooperative measure with that agency and the specimens were sent out on December 26.

Considerable time was given over to the selection, packing and otherwise preparing skulls and casts of animal tracks for shipment to the Chicago Art Institute for their use in the Franz Lipp exhibit which will be held there next summer. This shipment was made on December 26 and at the close of the month a very careful preparation of the Moran paintings for shipment is in process and it is expected that they will be sent out to the Chicago Art Institute early in January.

Research and Observation. The barograph and thermograph which were used in conjunction with the study conducted by Park Ranger Ruben Hart at Old Faithful during the winter of 1949-50 were returned to the Weather Bureau in Cheyenne on December 4. These were sent to Yellowstone on a loan basis.

A Richardson's grouse was around the Mammoth community all month and disappeared at the close of the month. Exactly what happened to this animal has not been determined.

There are a number of old bull elk which are frequenting the parade ground and often get into the residential area.

There are a large number of varying hare in the general Mammoth area that spend the day time in their lairs under buildings and in the brush and at night are seen in numbers on the lawns. Cottontail rabbits are also reasonably common and are often seen in the daytime.

Two different coyote have been observed using the parade grounds for mousing and on occasion have been seen during the daylight hours around the buildings in the residential area.

There are approximately 20 mule deer that regularly frequent the residential area and a much larger number in the general vicinity of Mammoth.

An interesting array of birds visit the local bird feeding stations. Among those observed at one station were: the Richardson's grouse, Clark's nutcracker, magpie, Stellar's jay, pygmy nuthatch, red-breasted nuthatch, Rocky Mountain creeper, Rocky Mountain jay, Rocky Mountain checkadee and a Townsend's solitaire.

Natural History Association. The Natural History Association during the month placed orders for a considerable number of books for the Custer Battlefield National Monument library and in addition purchased for them a supply of visual aids equipment in the form of 16mm movie reels, cans, storage cabinets and slide cases.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 597 vehicles carrying 1,839 persons entered the park during the month as compared with 659 vehicles and 1,996 persons in December 1949. The majority of travel was

Considerable time was given over to the selection, packing and otherwise preparing skulls and casts of animal tracks for shipment to the Chicago Art Institute for their use in the Trans Life exhibit which will be held there next summer. This shipment was made on December 26 and at the close of the month a very careful preparation of the Moran paintings for shipment is in process and it is expected that they will be sent out to the Chicago Art Institute early in January.

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Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 997 vehicles carrying 1,839 persons entered the park during the month as compared with 699 vehicles and 1,996 persons in December 1949. The majority of travel was

attributed to hunters in the Gardiner area who entered the park after hunting part of the day in the hunting areas. The weather was favorable and the road to the Northeast Entrance remained in good condition all month. The road to the West Entrance remained open for official travel only. This road was kept open due to the construction of the new dwelling at the West Entrance.

Visitors. Alfred M. Milotte, Photographer for Walt Disney Productions, who came into the park on July 31 to obtain a picture on the life of bears for Walt Disney Productions, departed with Mrs. Milotte on December 7.

Ranger Service. Hunting patrols were maintained throughout the month in the hunting area adjoining the park along the northern boundary. Night patrols were also carried out along the road from Gardiner to the Reese Creek section in order to prevent night poaching in that area. A number of rangers were occupied in the live elk reduction program being carried on all month. Considerable maintenance work was done on riding and packing equipment and repair of the horse trailers. Office work consisted of preparation of correspondence and reports work on fire control posters and lesson plans.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ELK MANAGEMENT. Trapping Operations. The elk traps located at Mammoth and Crystal Creek were operated during the entire month. The Lamar trap was baited and placed in operation after December 6 but all of the construction work was not completed until the 18th. A total of 27 live elk was released to the Montana Fish and Game Department for transplanting and 6 large bulls, trapped at Lamar, were released in the open hunting area north of Gardiner, Montana, on December 14. The carcasses of 5 elk accidentally killed during trapping operations were furnished the Crow Indian Agency on December 21. The lower winter range areas were largely free of snow during the last half of the month and snow depths were light over the intermediate range. Elk found ample natural forage and few could be lured into the traps by the hay used as bait.

Plans for the Crystal Creek and Lamar elk traps were revised to eliminate the abattoirs previously planned. The funds were diverted to construction of an additional elk trap north of the main road near Blacktail Deer Creek. Work on the new trap commenced December 18.

Hunting season. A total of 118 was checked through the Montana Fish and Game Department station at Corwin Springs by end of December. Additional animals taken during the early season and by local hunters will be reported later by local game wardens. Mild weather and a lack of snow permitted the elk to remain within the park so that the hunter harvest was small.

Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

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Visitors. Alfred M. Milotte, Photographer for Walt Disney Productions, who came into the park on July 31 to obtain a picture on the life of bears for Walt Disney Productions, departed with Mrs. Milotte on December 7.

Ranger Service. Hunting patrols were maintained throughout the month in the hunting area adjoining the park along the northern boundary. Night patrols were also carried out along the road from Gardiner to the Reese Creek section in order to prevent night poaching in that area. A number of rangers were occupied in the live elk reduction program being carried on all month. Considerable maintenance work was done on riding and packing equipment and repair of the horse trailers. Office work consisted of preparation of correspondence and reports work on fire control posters and lesson plans.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. ELK MANAGEMENT. Trapping Operations. The elk traps located at Isinglass and Crystal Creek were operated during the entire month. The Lamar trap was baited and placed in operation after December 6 but all of the construction work was not completed until the 18th. A total of 27 live elk was released to the Montana Fish and Game Department for transplanting and 6 large bulls, trapped at Lamar, were released in the open hunting area north of Gardiner, Montana, on December 14. The carcasses of 5 elk accidentally killed during trapping operations were furnished the Crow Indian Agency on December 21. The lower winter range areas were largely free of snow during the last half of the month and snow depths were light over the intermediate range. Elk found ample natural forage and few could be lured into the traps by the hay used as bait.

Plans for the Crystal Creek and Lamar elk traps were revised to eliminate the substitute previously planned. The funds were diverted to construction of an additional elk trap north of the main road near Blacktail Deer Creek. Work on the new trap commenced December 12.

Hunting season. A total of 113 was checked through the Montana Fish and Game Department station at Corwin Springs by end of December. Additional animals taken during the early season and by local hunters will be reported later by local game wardens. Mild weather and a lack of snow permitted the elk to remain within the park so that the hunter harvest was small.

Direct control. All arrangements were made to commence direct control of surplus elk by shooting on the open range within the park after January 1. The start of this work was delayed in the interest of better public relations but it is anticipated that Indian Agency requests for 476 elk carcasses will be filled next month. Elk trapped in excess of those required for restocking purposes or transplanting will be released in open hunting areas north of Gardiner.

Forest Fire Protection. Work on the draft of the Annual Forestry Report was completed and ready for typing. The Fire Atlas inclusions were prepared and ready for transmittal by the end of the month. Park Ranger Hess was assigned a project of preparing a training aid consisting of several charts with diagrams and text showing the various steps in the suppression of a small fire. A definite need for this particular aid was experienced last season and should prove a valuable help in training seasonal personnel next summer.

Weather Observations. Details of snow course measurements were worked out with various district rangers and the winterkeeper at Canyon and arrangements were made to take the measurements as usual.

Trails. Two conferences were held concerning trail estimates for the next fiscal year. Work is nearing completion on these estimates and should be completed early in January.

Building Fire Protection. Six "Hero" type fire extinguishers were sent to West Yellowstone for use in the new residence that was just completed there and is now occupied by District Ranger Anderson.

Four defective pyrene type extinguishers were replaced by Hero extinguishers during the month.

Building fire hazard inspections were halted on December 6 as personnel taking the inspections were needed on the elk reduction program. It will very likely not be practical to start the inspections again until after the completion of the reduction program.

Equipment in the Mammoth building fire truck was checked and found to be in excellent condition. The mechanical condition of the truck is good and all pumps in working order.

Accidents and Public Safety. Four Class "B" motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, three of them occurring on the West Yellowstone - Gallatin road involving visitors. Considerable property damage resulted in these three accidents but no injuries were reported. The cause of the accidents was listed as improper driving due to the icy and snow covered road.

Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Direct control. All arrangements were made to commence direct control of surplus elk by shooting on the open range within the park after January 1. The start of this work was delayed in the interest of better public relations but it is anticipated that Indian agency requests for 475 elk carcasses will be filled next month. Elk trapped in excess of those required for restocking purposes or transplanting will be released in open hunting areas north of Gardiner.

Forest Fire Protection. Work on the draft of the annual Forestry Report was completed and ready for typing. The fire files indexing were prepared and ready for transmittal by the end of the month. Park Ranger Hess was assigned a project of preparing a training aid consisting of several charts with diagrams and text showing the various steps in the suppression of a small fire. A definite need for this particular aid was experienced last season and should prove a valuable help in training seasonal personnel next summer.

Weather Observations. Details of snow course measurements were worked out with various district rangers and the ninetieth meridian at Gardiner and arrangements were made to take the measurements as usual.

Trails. Two conferences were held concerning trail estimates for the next fiscal year. Work is nearing completion on these estimates and should be completed early in January.

Building Fire Protection. Six "Hero" type fire extinguishers were sent to West Yellowstone for use in the new residence that was just completed there and is now occupied by District Ranger Anderson.

Four defective grenade type extinguishers were replaced by new extinguishers during the month.

Building Fire Hazard Inspections were halted on December 6 as personnel taking the inspections were needed on the elk reduction project. It will very likely not be practical to start the inspections again until after the completion of the reduction program.

Equipment in the Yellowstone building fire truck was checked and found to be in excellent condition. The mechanical condition of the truck is good and all pumps in working order.

Accidents and Public Safety. Four cases of motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, three of them occurring on the West Yellowstone - Gallatin road involving visitors. Considerable property damage resulted in these three accidents but no injuries were received. The cause of the accidents was listed as improper driving due to the icy and snow covered road.

The fourth accident involved two Government pickups driven by a district ranger and park ranger and occurred during the early morning hours when the rangers were working on the elk trapping program and accidentally ran the pickups together. Minor personal injuries were suffered by both men and considerable damage done to both pickups.

Law Enforcement. No law enforcement cases were held during the month. U. S. Commissioner T. Paul Wilcox was away from the park throughout the month due to illness, spending the time with one of his daughters in Seattle, Washington.

Chief Ranger Skinner and District Park Ranger Frank Anderson left for Cheyenne, Wyoming, on December 2 to act as witnesses for the Government in the manslaughter case involving Irving M. Doely as the result of an accident which occurred on the West Yellowstone-Madison Junction road about seven miles east of West Yellowstone last July. The trial was held on December 4 and Mr. Doely was acquitted of the charges. Messrs. Skinner and Anderson returned to the park on December 7.

Marriages. Lucinda May Bolt and Lyford W. Dore were married on December 17 at the First Presbyterian Church in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mr. Dore is a member of the park's permanent organization, holding the position of Fireman (Shovel, Crane, Stationary), and Mrs. Dore is a seasonal Clerk-Stenographer in the personnel and file office. They returned to the park the latter part of the month and will make their home temporarily in Gardiner.

Personnel. Wilbur R. Thomas entered on duty as Storekeeper (General)-Truck Driver, GS-3 vice John Galle on December 4. The services of Elizabeth J. McGinnis, seasonal Clerk-Stenographer, GS-3, terminated at the close of business December 8. Lucinda May Bolt, seasonal Clerk-Stenographer, GS-3, was furloughed at 9:00 a.m. December 14. Arnold G. Quist, Plumber, entered on annual leave and leave without pay December 16 to attend a trade school in Kansas City, Missouri, under the GI Bill to further his education along plumbing and sanitation lines. The services of Virginia T. Fuller, seasonal Clerk-Typist, terminated at the close of business December 20. Robert H. Robinson, Park Ranger, GS-5, was promoted to the position of Supervisory Park Ranger, GS-6, on December 24.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of Federal Employees Union No. 465 was held in the Canteen December 5. A New Year's party sponsored by the Federation was held in the Canteen on the night of December 29.

Fred T. Johnston
Acting Superintendent

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The fourth accident involves two Government pickups driven by a district ranger and park ranger and occurred during the early morning hours when the rangers were working on the elk trapping program and accidentally ran the pickups together. Minor personal injuries were suffered by both men and considerable damage done to both pickups.

Law Enforcement. No law enforcement cases were held during the month. U. S. Commissioner T. Paul Wilcox was away from the park throughout the month due to illness, spending the time with one of his daughters in Seattle, Washington.

Chief Ranger Skinner and District Park Ranger Frank Anderson left for Cheyenne, Wyoming, on December 2 to act as witnesses for the Government in the mandamus case involving Irving K. Scelly as the result of an accident which occurred on the West Yellowstone-Madison Junction road about seven miles east of West Yellowstone last July. The trial was held on December 4 and Mr. Scelly was acquitted of the charges. Skinner and Anderson returned to the park on December 7.

Marriages. Lucinda May Toft and Lyford W. Cone were married on December 17 at the First Presbyterian Church in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mr. Cone is a member of the park's permanent organization, holding the position of Fireman (Diesel Shop, Maintenance), and Mrs. Cone is a seasonal Clerk-Stenographer in the personnel and file office. They returned to the park the latter part of the month and will make their home temporarily in Gardiner.

Transfer. William H. Moore entered on duty as Storekeeper (General)-Truck Driver, CS-7 vice John Collie on December 4. The services of Elizabeth T. McGinnis, seasonal Clerk-Stenographer, GS-5, terminated at the close of business December 6. Lucinda May Toft, seasonal Clerk-Stenographer, GS-3, was furloughed at 5:00 p.m. December 11. Harold C. Lukat, Fireman, entered on annual leave and leave without pay December 16 to attend a trade school in Kansas City, Missouri, under the GI Bill to further his education along plumbing and sanitation lines. The services of Virginia T. Miller, seasonal Clerk-Typist, terminated at the close of business December 20. Robert H. Robinson, Park Ranger, GS-5, was promoted to the position of Supervisory Park Ranger, GS-6, on December 24.

Miscellaneous. The regular monthly meeting of Federal Employees Union No. 463 was held in the Canteen December 5. A New Year's party sponsored by the Federation was held in the Canteen on the night of December 29.

Ira T. Johnston
Acting Superintendent

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